THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE WAS POSTED ON THE JEWISH GENEALOGICAL MESSAGE AREA OF INTERNET ON FEBRUARY 5, 1995

From: Stanley Diamond

To: All Msg #317, Feb-05-95 18:29:26

Subject: Montreal Jewish Genealogical Society

It is with great pride I announce the formation of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal.

Following an introductory workshop on November 13th, and two general meetings (December 15th, 23 attendees; January 9th, 60 attendees), the steering committee voted on February 2nd to declare ourselves a full-fledged and operating society.

A founding executive has been elected and I am pleased to advise that, while many of our members are short on genealogical research experience, our core group is a solid and competent cross section of our 100,000 strong Montreal Jewish community.

The next meeting will be February 20, 1995 at 7:30 pm at the Jewish Public Library, Auditorium, 5151 Cote St. Catherine Rd., Montreal. Guest speaker will be Mr. Ken Quinn, System Operator of the Quebec Genealogy Online Bulletin Board. Mr. Quinn's talk "Using the computer to research and record your family history" will cover some of the popular genealogical software programs as well as how to use the Quebec Genealogy Online Bulletin Board, the local JewishGen carrier.

This is an appropriate time to publicly thank all those who helped make our new JGS happen. First, to Henry Wellisch, President of the JGS of Toronto, who, at the June 1993 summer seminar, encouraged me to take on the task of starting up a Montreal society. Then there is the Jewish People and Peretz Schools of Montreal who invited me to organize a genealogy workshop for their November 13th Klezfest. While the untimely death of a teacher forced the cancellation of the Klezfest, the co-chair, Sara Tauben and Shirley Gonshor not only insisted the workshop to go on but actively participated in a making it both an outstanding success and the launching pad for our Society.

A special thank you to Dr. Rolf Lederer, who graciously came from Toronto to lead the workshop; his expertise, love of genealogy and good humour opened up the eyes of both experienced Jewish family researchers and budding genealogists. To Bruce Kahn whose October 22, 1994 post "Fostering Interest in Jewish Genealogy" and private words of encouragement were so helpful; to Jonathan Smith, the AJGS "start up man" who provided some excellent hand out material; to Gary Mokotoff whose knowledge and experience were always readily available; to Gene Starn who shared some of his experiences; and to Warren Blatt, whose professionalism is an inspiration.

To the Montreal Jewish Public Library which invited us to make our home in their outstanding facilities and whose executive director and entire staff have been so encouraging and helpful. We are truly blessed to have this wonderful resource available to us.

And, most of all, to the executive and members of the new JGS of Montreal whose interest and encouragement have been a constant. It would have been impossible without their ongoing support.

To our fellow JGS's around the world, we look forward to being on the mailing list for your newsletters (and any extra copies of your old ones as well). We hope to be publishing our own newsletter by September and will, of course, reciprocate.

One favour to ask of readers of JewishGen and all our co-genealogists: We recognize we will be filling a void in Montreal and that many of you will be delighted to now have fellow genealogists to help with your Montreal-related research questions. We will try to help if and when we can. However, before rushing to send off your wish list of needed information, please give us several months to get fully organized.

Our address is:

65

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Until our Email contact is formally appointed, Email may be addressed to me at: stanley.diamond@f117.n167.z1.fidonet.org

Stanley M. Diamond, President Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal

--- Maximus 2.02

* Origin: Quebec Genealogy Online (514) 768-1986 (1:167/117)